Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, TD
SUBJECT: AIR RIGHTS ASPECTS OF REPORT ON FUTURE OF
AIR SERVICES

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 1303

1. REPORT TO CABINET OF COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE ORGANIZATION OF AIR SERVICES IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (THE PERKINS COMMITTEE) CONTAINED RECOMMENDATIONS TO NEGOTIATE BILATERAL TREATIES WITH THE UNITED STATES AND BARBADOS TO REPLACE GRANDFATHER PRIVILEGES DERIVED FROM BERMUDA AGREEMENT, AND ENSURING THAT THE TREATY WITH THE UK INCLUDES SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO TRAFFIC RIGHTS IN THE ASSOCIATED STATES. IT ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT A SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL ROUTES SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AND FORWARDED TO GOVERNMENT FOR ITS EARLY ATTENTION. REPORT SUGGESTED THAT THE PRESENT STANDING BILATERAL COMMITTEE SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED TO ENSURE REPRESENTATION AT A SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEGAL TO MAKE FIRM PROPOSALS TO GOVERNMENT.

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2. THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY CABINET. IT DID AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT THE COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO FORMULATE RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLICY AND TO ACT AS A NEGOTIATING TEAM IN ALL MATTERS WITH RESPECT TO BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENTS SHOULD BE REVIEWED AND THAT BASIL PITT, AMBASSADOR AT LARGE, SHOULD BE APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE.

- 3. SOME POINTS WHICH HAD BEEN SUGGESTED AS ADDITIONS TO WASHINGTON, CURACAO/ARBUA, WINNIPEG, MONTREAL, FRANKFURT AND MILAN, WHILE BILATERAL TRADE DISCUSSIONS WITH BRAZIL AND COLOMBIA HAVE INCLUDED POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING SERVICES TO THOSE COUNTRIES.
- 4. COMMENT: AS NEW NATIONAL CARRIER HAS NOT YET BEEN FORMED, AND STUDY OF POTENTIAL ROUTES HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED, WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE THAT GOTT WILL BE ASKING U.S. FOR BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ANY TIME SOON. ONCE THE GOTT GETS ITS OWN ACT TOGETHER, HOWEVER, THE SUBJECT MAY WELL BE BROUGHT UP. IN THE INTERIM, WE EXPECT THAT THE NEW AIRLINE WILL BE DESIGNATED BY THE GOTT TO OPERATE ALL OR PART OF BWIA'S ROUTES TO THE U.S. NOW COVERED BY THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES OF OCTOBER 1962.

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